

214 Tracy Drive  
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March 16, 2008

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns about certain proposed legislation. I represent the Rockville Fish and Game Club of Vernon, Tolland, Ellington and other towns.

Our members include recreational shooters of rifles, pistols and shotguns as well as hunters, collectors and those who use firearms for personal protection in their homes and businesses.

We oppose the following proposed bills:

1. 603- Coded ammunition. The technology to implement this requirement in a cost effective manner is nonexistent. This is a concept that will result in compliance nightmares for all concerned. The buyer's ability to assure accurate registration of the serial number of the rounds would be prevented by normal packaging techniques. It would be confiscatory in nature requiring uncoded ammunition to be destroyed at considerable cost to the owners. New ammunition would be unaffordable. Ammunition sales in Connecticut would probably cease. Reloading requirements are unknown. Any correlation between ammunition buyer and shooter can be circumvented by the use of shells picked up on the range. This bill interferes with interstate commerce.
2. 607- Micro-stamping Technology. The technology to do this in a cost effective manner is nonexistent. The technology can easily be defeated by anyone with a wish to do so. The cost of firearms subject to this requirement would be prohibitive. Crimes committed with such a firearm would not identify the shooter. This bill interferes with interstate commerce.
3. 607- Long Gun sales. Subjecting long guns to the same private sales requirements as handguns is a solution in search of a problem. Inflicting more paperwork on large numbers of unsuspecting law-

abiding citizens will not prevent illegal sales between criminals. It will simply define a new victimless crime.

We do not believe that any of these measures will reduce crime. In fact, it is difficult to believe the purpose of these bills is to reduce crime. At best it seems that we have a misguided attempt to blame the objects sometimes used in violent crimes instead of the people who commit the crimes. At worst we have an attempt to deprive our citizens of their constitutional rights.

Measures such as those proposed will only affect the behavior of law abiding gun owners exercising their constitutional rights. Criminals will not follow these laws.

Poor laws have the effect of lowering respect for law and order among law-abiding people.

It is time for this body to address the real causes of violent behavior in our society. It may be more difficult and may provide less time in the spotlight, but that is your responsibility. It is where your efforts must be concentrated.

You can start by enforcing the present gun laws and by keeping criminals locked up instead of encouraging violent crime through the present catch and release system.

Thank you,



Bill Campbell  
Legislative Chairman,  
Rockville Fish and Game Club